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DE RUEHQT #0206 0832204
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 242204Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0195
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 8058
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 4120
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 3470
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAR LIMA 3118
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0167
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI 0019
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL 4213
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0178
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0433

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 000206

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: TWENTY YEARS

TAGS: PREL MOPS MARR PBTS KPKO GG RS EC

SUBJECT: ECUADOR DEMARCHE RESPONSE - RUSSIAN RECOGNITION OF ABKHAZIA AND SOUTH OSSETIA

REF: A. STATE 24186 <u>¶</u>B. 08 QUITO 880

Classified By: DCM Andrew Chritton for Reasons 1.4 (b&d)

11. (C) PolOff delivered Ref A points to MFA Bilateral Affairs Director General for Europe Pablo Villagomez on March 23, 2009. Villagomez reiterated the position previously expressed by the MFA's Director General of Multilateral Affairs (Ref B), that the GOE was sensitive to issues of sovereignty and would not get involved in such issues publicly. He said that the GOE would not take a position for or against Russia or Georgia, nor would it condemn Russia's recognition of South Ossetia or Abkhazia as independent states. When asked, he said that Russia had not pressed Ecuador on the issue.